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FBIS-EEU-95-096 *18 May 1995*

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Package To Settle Debts Agreed On With Banks

AU1705163795 Tirana RILINDJA DEMOKRATIKE in Albanian 12 May 95 p 1

[Unattributed report: "This Is a Great Step Not Only Because We Have Liquidated the Debts of the Past But Also Because We Have Done Away With One of Albania's Main Financial Obstacle"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Finance Ministry has announced that, after two days of negotiations in London between the government committee for negotiating Albania's external debts — headed by Mr. Dylber Vrioni, deputy prime minister and finance minister — and the steering committee of the foreign crediting banks, an agreement in principle was signed on settling Albania's external foreign debts to foreign banks. Albania will pay its creditors only 20 percent of the total value of the debts that it has to these banks. On this occasion the two sides signed a joint press declaration. The two committees also set the terms for implementing this agreement.

In a statement to RILINDJA DEMOKRATIKE, Mr. Vrioni said: "This is a great step not only because in this way we have already settled our debts of the past but especially because we have done away with Albania's main financial obstacles, opening the way for investment." It must be borne in mind that this debt has impeded Albania's relations with such big banks of Europe and the world as the Union Bank of Switzerland, Deutsche Bank, Credit Lyonnais, Banca Nazionale di Lavoro, and so on. Thus, the solution of this problem will open up the way not only for the activity of these banks in Albania but also for more investment in terrain more suitable with the opening up of the Albanian economy.

Ministry Protests Cross-Border Killing

AU1705175895 Tirana TVSH Television Network in Albanian 1800 GMT 16 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] On 15 May 1995, the Albanian Embassy in Belgrade handed over to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Serbia and Montenegro, a protest note over the killing of 31-year-old Albanian citizen Ferid Ramadan Vllaca, a resident of the village of Pakishe in the Kukes district, and the wounding of 48-year-old Mestan Halil Hoxha, a resident of the same village, by Serbian border guards on 13 May 1995.

According to all the evidence, the Serbian border guards fired unexpectedly and unprovoked while the two were pasturing their cattle in Albanian territory.

The note expresses concern and protests such repeated acts by the Yugoslav border authorities and considers them to be very dangerous for the stability of the region and beyond at a time when pressure against Albanians and terror are increasing in Kosova.

The note also demands that this provocative policy toward Albania — a policy which, if seen in the global aspect of the crisis in the former Yugoslavia, has as its logical outcome destabilization of the Balkans through escalating conflict in the south — be halted.

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Russian Prime Minister Arrives for 2-Day Visit

AU1805082995 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 0800 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] A short time ago, Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin was welcomed with an honor guard at Sofia Airport. He arrived at the head of a Russian Government delegation on an official two-day visit at the invitation of Bulgarian Prime Minister Zhan Videnov. Mr. Chernomyrdin is accompanied by Yuriy Spiridonov, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Komi Republic, and by the ministers of transport, atomic energy, finance, and health of the Russian Federation. The Russian delegation includes a great number of experts from various economic spheres.

The Bulgarian officials in the welcoming party at Sofia Airport included Prime Minister Zhan Videnov, his four deputies, ministers, and public figures.

Apart from his meetings with Zhan Videnov, Mr. Chernomyrdin will have official meetings with the president of the Republic, Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev; the National Assembly Chairman, aAcademician Blagovest Sendov, and Patriarch Maksim, head of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church during his visit.

Zhelev, Videnov Meet, Agree on Need To Cooperate

AU1605204395 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 16 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] We have received an announcement from the Presidential Press Center on a meeting between President Zhelev and Prime Minister Videnov, which states the following:

The meeting was of a working nature. The forthcoming visit to Bulgaria by Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin was discussed. Particular attention was paid to the agreements that are to be signed, which mark the start of the practical implementation of the bilateral treaty between Bulgaria and Russia.

The president and the prime minister agreed that better cooperation is needed between state institutions, irrespective of ideological and political differences. They shared the view that direct contact between the president and prime minister is much more beneficial than communicating through intermediaries. They agreed to meet regularly with a view to synchronizing the activities of the institutions in both domestic and foreign policy — which is in Bulgaria's interest.

Zhelev 'Restrained, Moderate' at News Conference

AU1705145295 Sofia DEMOKRATSIYA in Bulgarian 13 May 95 p 3

[Commentary by Ivan Ibrishimov: "Fears and Caution"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The expectations that President Zhelev's news conference would produce political fireworks were not confirmed. Restrained and moderate in his assessments, the president defended his well-known positions. Regarding the news conference's main topic — the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II in London, Paris, and Moscow — the president made an impression with his comments on the nostalgia that the majority of people in Russia feel for the old times of endless parades and demonstrations of a political and nuclear culture. The comparisons he made led one to think that Europe and NATO are the only sensible choice for a country like ours.

The expected analysis of the government's first 100 days also failed to see the light of day. Evidently the president did not want to add fuel to the already-smoldering fire in his relations with Videnov. To many people, his argument that the government is parliament's concern and that he will provide an assessment only if parliament asks for it sounded somewhat frivolous, to say the least, bearing in mind the analysis that Dr. Zhelev made of Filip Dimitrov's cabinet in 1992, also at the Boyana Residence.

From another angle, the president demonstrated his respect for the SDS [Union of Democratic Forces] by declaring that, for him, the SDS is "the country's democratic alternative." However, he did not fail to mention that on occasion he disagrees with some of the SDS's actions and certain of its leaders. Taken overall, the president's attitudes may be interpreted as well intentioned toward the democratic forces and critical — but not extremely so — toward the ruling party.

Zhelev's assessment that, as far as eastern Europe is concerned, World War II ended only in 1989 irritated the reporters of the Socialist press, but for the handful of representatives of the democratic press who were present, the expected "meeting on the Elbe" did not take place — at least for the time being.

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Ministry Report Lists Extremist Organizations

AU1705175395 Prague RESPEKT in Czech No. 20 15-21 May 95 p 5

[Article by Jaroslav Spurny: "The Government Has Named the Domestic Extremists"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Calm has descended after six months of hysteria. The government has approved the list of domestic extremist organizations. It happened last week within the framework of the cabinet discussion on the Interior Ministry's material. In view of the fact that the ministers have approved Ruml's report on extremism, the appended list of 14 organizations that, in the opinion of its compiler, indulge in it has also received an official stamp.

Thanks to this, the storm unleashed some time ago by Deputy Prime Minister Kalvoda has come to an end. It is still within living memory that, during the winter, the Civic Democratic Alliance chairman accused the Security Information Service [BIS], among other things, of drafting an internal list of extremists on which, according to Kalvoda, parliamentary parties, environmental organizations, and a number of politically non-conformist persons featured. Then the storm erupted. Hundreds of people called the Interior Ministry every day to ask if the secret service had by chance listed them as extremists, environmental movements organized protest petitions, and former CTK Director Petr Uhl even submitted a complaint against the BIS.

Perhaps these actions were the reason why the officials' response was so rapid. The Interior Ministry described the secret service's materials as "purely a working draft" and the public found out that three institutions were working on a real list of extremists. Interior Minister Ruml came forward with the results of their work on 10 May.

What Extremism Is

The report's authors (apart from the Interior Ministry, the State Attorney's Office, and the BIS) proceeded, first and foremost, from material called Inter-Ethnic Conflicts, which, 18 months ago, engrossed Prime Minister Klaus so much that he recommended that they keep working on it. Therefore, the report on extremism is a loose continuation of this document. [passage omitted]

Ultra Right-Wing Movements

The experts estimate that roughly 1,500 extremists acknowledge a neo-Nazi ideology, approximately the same number are skinheads, and roughly 4,000 ultra-right wingers are grouped around "patriotic organizations." BIS warns that these movements have a tendency to arm themselves and some groups take part in semi-military training.

The most significant neo-Nazi organization is, according to the report, the Patriotic Front (officially registered by the Interior Ministry in 1993). It is based in Brno and the report estimates the number of its members at 300. The ideology propagated by its periodic publication FENIX [PHOENIX] in particular comes down to national socialism, racism, and anti-Semitism. Jiri Fidler, the organization's leader and a student of art history and history at the Philosophical Faculty in Brno, rejects the allegations of Nazism. The Front's fundamental idea is "Our own nation above all" and he compares himself more to Le Pen.

The list also contains the names of four other organizations. The Patriotic League has, according to BIS, some 250 members, it propagates so-called Czech fascism, and issues an intermittent publication CESKY STIT [CZECH SHIELD]. Bohemia Hammer Skins is, apparently, a branch of a similarly named supra-national organization. It has around 800 members and it issues several publications with a print-run of roughly 500 copies, the most prominent of which is the periodic PATRIOT. The National Socialist Movement of Europe is also a branch of an international association, it is based in Hronov, has, apparently, up to 200 members, and publishes the magazine ARIJSKY BOJ [ARYAN STRUGGLE]. And finally, the National Fascist Community has several dozen supporters and disseminates its views through a samizdat publication called AGRESOR [AGGRESSOR].

The report quotes passages from the neo-Nazi publications in two of its pages. For your information, here is a sample from a Bohemia Hammer Skins' bulletin: "Our ultimate goal is a society based on the Fuhrer principle and the supremacy of the white race in which there will be no place for colored sub-humans, Jews, drug addicts, political vagrants, racial traitors, and other forms of scum..."

Anarchists, Communists, and Environmentalists

According to the experts, the left-wing movements are not too significant. The potential risk of terrorism is mentioned in connection with them; the report quotes from the anarchist magazine A-KONTRA in this regard: "It is necessary to orient ourselves toward ruthless and destructive acts that will shake society, attacks on targets that are at the heart of the system. Solidarity with the RAF [Red Army Faction]! Its acts are carried off brilliantly..." BIS, of course, concedes that the ultra-leftist movements do not yet have sufficient funds to arm themselves thoroughly.

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The best-known organization on the left wing of the extremist scene is the Czech Anarchist Organization. It has approximately 1,000 members and publishes the lucrative A-KONTRA magazine with a print-run of 5,000 copies. Another two anarchist organizations (the Anarcho-Syndicalist Initiative and the Anarchist Federation) have several dozen members between them and are irrelevant.

The experts are far more afraid of groups with a communist ideology. The activity of the Ostrava-based 600-member organization Antifa (Patriotic Association of Anti- Fascists) is commented on most comprehensively in the report. The organization rejects democratic development outright. Former members of the KSC [Communist Party of Czechoslovakia], the Union of Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship, the People's Militia and also several dozen former StB [State Security] officers have mostly joined the organization. It publishes the ANTIFA newsletter. The experts also rank the Club of the Czech Border Regions, Pludek's Slavic Union, and Stepan's [Miroslav Stepan, KSC head in Prague prior to November 1989] People's Union for National and Social Salvation among the communist extremists.

As far as the environmental organizations are concerned, the Rainbow Movement got onto the list first and foremost. Not, of course, on account of the misunderstood suggestion from its brochure (Rainbow, as an example of absolutely unacceptable practices in the environmental struggle, referred here to terrorist violence, which a BIS analyst interpreted as paying lip-service to terrorism), but thanks to one of its demonstrations outside the Temelin nuclear power plant. Another extremist organization is the Animal SOS Foundation. It is on the blacklist thanks to its vigorous protest against the Grand Pardubice Steeplechase in 1992.

How To Proceed Against Extremists

The 30-page report states that, from the beginning of 1993 to mid 1994, more than 450 racially or ethnically motivated crimes were committed and it reckons that hundreds more have not been reported to the police at all. During the past five years, 225 culprits have been prosecuted for [propagating] racial or ethnic hatred. At the same time, the number of "crimes of an extremist nature" is roughly the same: 271. One thing is apparent from this. The police and state attornies' offices will have to harmonize their approach to extremism and define when the issue involves a brawl, a racial attack, and when — for instance — a demonstration against Temelin is an expression of disquiet against the use of nuclear energy and when there are elements of "an attack on the foundations of the state" in it.

The government stipulated in 1993 that the activity of extremist groups is one of the risks immediately associated with the stability of the political system. Therefore, since last July the police have also been assessing crimes from the point of view of extremism and there is one person in each regional police administration who monitors this issue regularly. The BIS plays a slightly more important role: For the needs of the police, it "uncovers the organizational structures of the extremist groups and provides information on the events planned so that the police can be prepared for an event."

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Ministry Official Satisfied With U.S. Talks

LD1805100095 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 0800 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In conclusion of his visit to the United States, Jozef Sestak, the state secretary in the Foreign Affairs Ministry, told TASR that, as he himself could see, the image of Slovakia had fundamentally improved.

During his three-day talks in Washington he established many contacts and promoted the deepening of relations between the United States and Slovakia both in political, military, and security spheres.

The focal point of the talks were the issues related to our country's integration into the European structures and mainly into NATO.

In his talks with the most important deputies of secretary of state and high officials from the National Security Council, Jozef Sestak focused above all on the issues of content and the timetable of Slovakia's incorporation [into these structures]. He noted that the Americans highly praise mainly Slovakia's contribution to the process of stabilizing the situation in Central Europe through the Hungarian-Slovak Treaty.

'Text' of Kovac Reply to Meciar's 'Accusations'

LD1705181395 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 1600 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] This afternoon, Slovak President Michal Kovac gave a statement to Slovak radio, Slovak television, and the Slovak news agency TASR regarding yesterday's appearance of Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar on the television show Press Club. We bring you full text of President Kovac's statement.

[Begin Kovac recording] Dear fellow citizens: I do not regard as favorable that the president has to turn to the public too often. Alas, we live in an era when this seems to be unavoidable. Too many lies, demagogic statements, and manipulations of public opinion have appeared. In these circumstances, it is the duty of the president to speak out.

I want to respond briefly to some accusations made by Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar on the television program Press Club on 16 May. Once again he repeated a great deal of unsubstantiated, gerrymandered, and literally unspeakable statements, for example, that I drove society into conflicts, that I was arrogant toward parliament, and that I was the source of our domestic unrest.

I do not want to respond to this because I believe that almost every citizen who carefully follows our domestic situation is able to assess who really drives our society to conflict, who really causes tension and looks for enemies, and who behaves as if all of Slovakia belongs to him, as if he owns the country.

The prime minister accuses me of scandals and dubious financial, family, and other kinds of affairs. The prime minister could be prosecuted for most of the statements made on that television program. I forgive him, however, and I will not file a suit against him. Nevertheless, I must refute these fabrications and untruths, the statements made recently as well as those he fed to the public earlier.

I have clean hands and a clear conscience. Citizens, I can assure you about it and look you straight in the eye.

I would like to ask the public, those who can influence Prime Minister Meciar, to point out kindly to him that his attitudes and behavior cast a bad light on the name of the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia, whose name, as you all know, carries the precious name of democracy, which we longed for throughout the years. The prime Minister divides our citizens and creates a bad image for the Slovak Republic at home and abroad, while he and his colleagues perpetually accuse everyone else of such activities, for example those people who are even only a little bit critical about our domestic situation.

If we are really concerned about the good of Slovakia and its citizens, we should tolerate and respect one another despite our differences; we should develop a genuine dialogue. Hatred; fabricated enemies of people, of state, and statehood; and the unsubstantiated attacks are not dialogue, but harmful confrontations.

I have not provoked any tension since the government headed by Prime Minister Meciar was formed. If, as today, I respond publicly, I have responded to attacks. I sincerely believed that the new government, to which I wished success on behalf of Slovakia, would concentrate on the solution to important problems of society and the state. Alas, the opposite was true. Despite that, I will never be an attacker, yet I cannot tolerate untruths, malice, and sharp aggressiveness.

At this moment, I want to emphasize that I did not consider the handshake with Prime Minister Meciar when the government was formed an empty gesture or a strategic manoeuvre. Both then and now, I remained convinced that the escalation of tension, personal attacks, and fabricated accusations cannot be a permanent program of Slovak political leaders. The leading politicians need not declare love for one another, but they have to tolerate and respect one another.

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In the interest of Slovakia and its citizens, despite all the allegations, insults, and false accusation, I feel no hatred toward my opponents. I can bravely look in everyone's eyes and give him my friendly hand. I am always ready for prosperous cooperation with everyone. [end recording]

Workers Issue Statement on Constitution, President

LD1705202695 Bratislava STV 1 Television Network in Slovak 1730 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Association of Workers in Slovakia [ZRS] declares that it will continue to respect the Slovak Constitution and will not support or instigate any anti- constitutional moves aimed at the dismissal of the president, although its opinion is that the president should step down voluntarily. This is said in a statement issued by the board of the ZRS Central Council, given to the Slovak news agency today by ZRS Chairman Jan Luptak.

In this context, the ZRS unequivocally denounces all the pressure organized in support of President Kovac by the Christian Democratic Movement, the Democratic Union of Slovakia, and other political parties.

Meciar Views Council of Europe Document

AU1705163695 Bratislava SLOVENSKA REPUBLIKA in Slovak 15 May 95 p 4

[Interview with Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar by Bronislava Jaglova and Monika Volekova on board the "Druzba," sailing from Bratislava to Gabcikovo on 11 May: "Strasbourg Will Not Change the Treaty; Vladimir Meciar Exclusively for SLOVENSKA REPUBLIKA"]

[FBIS Translated Text] After his news conference on board the "Druzba" on Thursday [11 May], the Slovak prime minister found time for a brief interview with SLOVENSKA REPUBLIKA journalists.

[Jaglova] Mr. Prime Minister, you have indicated that the Council of Europe will be discussing Recommendation No. 1201. Could you tell us the Slovak Government's position on this document? Most probably, it involves rejection of collective rights....

[Meciar] For a Council of Europe decision to be valid, the approval of both constituent parts — that is, parliament and the Council of Ministers — is needed. The Council of Ministers will be discussing document No. 1,201 again because it has again been submitted by parliament. The position of the Slovak side — and, I believe, of many other countries as well — is that the part concerning collective rights will be negated. The part concerning individual, human, and civil rights and rights of people belonging to ethnic minorities will be accepted, otherwise we will negate document No. 1,201 as a whole. Minister of Foreign Affairs Schenk has left Bratislava with this brief and this is the position that he will be putting forward. We expect this position to receive the support of several states.

[Jaglova] What impact would a possible complete negation [negacia] of the recommendation have on the basic treaty with Hungary?

[Meciar] In that case, document No. 1201 would remain between ourselves and Hungary, but only bilaterally, without pan-European validity, and would not be a valid European document. While Recommendation No. 1201 is embedded in the Slovak-Hungarian Treaty, it is there with some restrictive clauses. The first says that we will respect only individual human and civil rights and the other specifies that nothing must be in contravention of the declaration of minority rights, as accepted by the Slovak and Hungarian sides. The entire opening passage of the treaty already says that we will respect only individual human and civil rights, so that the danger of a dual interpretation does not exist. If, in spite of this, someone wanted to cast doubt on this, he should realize that collective rights are possible only if domestic legislation makes them possible. However, the Government of the Slovak Republic also wants this issue to be clear internationally, along with its interpretation and rules, so that it cannot later be challenged, not on the basis of the contents of the treaty, but on the basis of its interpretation.

[Volekova] On Wednesday, 10 May 1995, the Czech Government instructed Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus to propose in a letter to you the cancellation of the temporary payment agreement between the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic by 1 September 1995. How do you approach this matter?

[Meciar] Prime Minister Klaus sent me a letter in which he fixed 31 May 1995 as the final date for the cancellation of the clearing system. This is a rather unusual course of action. The argument used in the letter that this is connected with international agreements is also not quite appropriate. We also know other interpretations of those agreements, which make it possible to abide by them by changing the payment agreement, rather than by canceling it.

Another fact is that the Czech Republic is trying to become a member of the OECD as soon as possible and to switch to the external convertibility of the Czech koruna. This is why it does not wish to be bound by the internal customs regulation of payment relations [nechce byt viazana vnutrocelnou upravou platobneho styku]. It is legitimate to assume that the Czech Government

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also made this decision under the impact of the Czech Republic's trade deficit with Slovakia. The decision on the cancellation of the payment agreement by the Czech Republic has essentially been made. It is only demanded that I join this decision. This is not the way in which prime ministers should conduct talks. If the Czech Republic wants to negotiate on changes to the payment agreement, it can do so, but at a lower level.

Pal Csaky Comments on Minority Rights Measures

AU1805115295 Budapest UJ MAGYARORSZAG in Hungarian 17 May 95 p 3

[Interview with Pal Csaky, head of the group of the Hungarian Christian Democratic Movement in the Slovak Parliament, by Udvardy; place and date not given: "Retreating Democrats"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Udvardy] If the language law is not worked out by the legal experts of the parliamentary parties, this could create a paradoxical situation. Could the seriousness of such an initiative be questioned?

[Csaky] It shows the peculiarity of the situation that again an organization that calls itself cultural is interfering in political life. This is not the first time: As far back as 1990, at the debate on the first language law, they submitted an alternative proposal that the Parliament almost accepted with the support of the Slovak National Party. That law was even more extremist than the present one, but it did not go to such "depth" as this one. The goal has not changed: They would like to create a one-language dictatorship. The Matica has quite an influence.

[Udvardy] Why did they submit this proposal now? What could be behind the timing?

[Csaky] It seems that the Matica realized that a few things were taking place in international life and Hungarian-Slovak relations that could have a favorable effect on national minority rights: For example, the Council of Europe confirmed Proposal No. 1201. It is also possible that they are engaged in tactics and want to frighten the Hungarians, so that they ratify the bilateral treaty at all events.

[Udvardy] As a Christian democratic party, what countermeasures could the Hungarian Christian Democratic Movement [MKDM] take?

[Csaky] We have sent the English translation of this proposal to Mr. Van den Stoel, the OSCE high commissioner on national minorities, and to officials of the Council of Europe and the EU, so that these organizations can try to influence the government. We are not talking here about a simple bill, because the National Council of the Slovak Government, an official advisory body, found this bill adequate to submit to the government. This means that the legislative process has started, and the bill can be submitted to Parliament any time.

[Udvardy] To what extent is it possible that the Slovak Christian democrats will vote against this bill, which also violates the right of free religious practice? Are you in sufficiently close contact with Carnogursky to consider a common stand?

[Csaky] We have been trying to develop contacts with Carnogursky's Christian Democratic Movement for five years. Unfortunately, we see that their movement has not yet gotten rid of the nationalist burdens that also characterize the Christian- democratic-oriented Slovak intelligentsia. Carnogursky has been sharply "retreating" lately. Two years ago, he said that cultural and educational autonomy was acceptable for him, and even personal autonomy on certain issues. Today, he has totally given up his former principles. We can do nothing against this, but we will definitely remind him that, between 1991 and 1993, his movement accepted two EUCD documents the signatories of which accept the obligation to support the national minorities.

[Udvardy] Why have the Slovak democrats shifted toward the extreme right?

[Csaky] In my view, the Slovak intelligentsia and official Slovak policy are beginning to be characterized by the lack of a future image, of a horizon. Lacking such a future image, Slovakia is hitting out on all sides and has become the least stable state in the region. As long as the Slovak intelligentsia fails to realize that this is a multi-national state, new tensions will constantly emerge.

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Keleti Visiting U.S., Comments on Army Reform

LD1705192295 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1600 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Defense Minister Gyorgy Keleti is holding talks in the United States. Our correspondent Miklos Martin Kovacs reports.

[Begin Kovacs recording] The Americans have signaled that requirements that will cost money to fulfill must be expected even before the expansion of NATO, the Hungarian minister said. After his talks, Keleti contacted Foreign Minister Laszlo Kovacs and Finance Minister Lajos Bokros from Washington, to discuss the financial conditions of army reform in Hungary. The Hungarian minister learned at the Pentagon that the expansion of NATO seems an irreversible process, and he told the Americans that tenders for the modernization of the Hungarian air defense locator system and the communication system will be invited in this spirit.

Keleti told Hungarian radio that in his experience, the United States treats Hungary on an equal basis, and that he did not notice any kind of tendency to dictate on the part of the Americans at the Washington talks. [end recording]

On Possible Military Purchases

LD1705215295 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 2000 GMT 17 May 95

[Interview with Hungarian Defense Minister Gyorgy Keleti by correspondent Miklos Martin Kovacs; in U.S., date not given — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Kovacs] While you are having talks here in the United States, a Hungarian military delegation is holding discussions in Russia, if I am right, on a possible handover to Hungary of part of the weapons arsenal of the former Soviet Union. Is it still sensible to accept Russian military equipment?

[Keleti] These pieces of equipment do not disturb compatibility. At least that is what several senior NATO officials said. We would like to purchase so-called BTR-80 armored transport vehicles in larger quantity, to replace similar vehicles made in Hungary 20-25 years ago. [passage omitted]

[Kovacs] I heard views in the U.S. legislature to the effect that they would not be overly happy if Hungary further reduced its defense expenditure. Were you told this opinion?

[Keleti] There was mention of it. [passage omitted]

Intelligence Official Interviewed on Tasks

AU1705181895 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 13 May 95 p 13

[Interview with Laszlo Botz, head of the military intelligence office, by Zoltan Vereckei in Budapest; place and date not given: "Intelligence Is a Condition for the Functioning of the Country"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Passage omitted]

[Vereckei] I know that an intelligence operative must have a very good sense of observation; otherwise, he could easily get into trouble. Is the reality different?

[Botz] No doubt, there are areas where a good ability to observe has priority in selecting personnel. In any case, we deal with this in the course of the studies.

[Vereckei] What other special requirements must a military intelligence operative fulfill?

[Botz] First of all, he must be a soldier, and it does not hurt for him to speak one or two foreign languages.

[Vereckei] Does this mean that knowledge of languages is not a basic requirement?

[Botz] Not for accepting people, but by the time a person leaves our school, he must speak at least two languages. In addition, of course, our officers learn a lot of other things, such as political studies, protocol.... [passage omitted]

[Vereckei] It is well known that most military diplomats are connected to intelligence. Obviously, this makes their work more difficult.

[Botz] Yes and no. We must differentiate between the word "intelligence," which has a very pejorative connotation in Hungary, and the activity described by this word. Intelligence is vital for the functioning of a country. For the leaders of a given country to make adequate political, military, and scientific decisions, they need information. I myself prefer to use the term "obtaining and evaluating information" to describe our work, because this term is not as pejorative as spying. If we approach this subject this way, we also come to the final conclusion that practically everyone whose activity is connected with information in one way or another is engaged in obtaining information. Thus, for example, economic experts and businessmen traveling abroad, as well as journalists, are also engaged in such activity. [passage omitted]

[Vereckei] It seems that a large part of your activity is legal. Could you determine the percentage of informal activity in your work?

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[Botz] I would rather say that, naturally, we always strive to get the most authentic information possible, information that can really help the leaders in making their decisions. As for the ways we can achieve this, that always depends on the given subject and the prevailing conditions. [passage omitted]

[Vereckei] A lot has really changed since the change in the regime, including the target countries. What countries are there now in the focus of your interest? One often heard, earlier, that intelligence operatives of neighboring countries considerably increased their activity in Hungary. I presume this is true the other way around as well.

[Botz] Instead of target countries, I would rather deal with what has come into the focus of our interest: of course, every event that threatens the security of the Hungarian Republic in one way or another.

[Vereckei] Does this mean that you also deal with civilian areas such as drug trafficking, the smuggling of nuclear materials, or illegal arms deals?

[Botz] Yes, of course, because all these sources of danger have exceeded individual special areas and therefore we need the cooperation of all the secret services to achieve results. [passage omitted]

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Silajdzic Comments on International 'Passivity'

LD1705193995 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic sent a letter to Warren Christopher, U.S. Secretary of State, on behalf of the president and Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina, which says that fierce artillery attacks on Sarajevo by the paramilitary formations of the Pale Serbs have been taking place for the second day now. Heavy artillery and tanks have been firing from within the exclusion zone and targeting civilians in the Sarajevo protected area.

Despite the fact that an ultimatum is in force which obliges the Pale Serbs to remove their heavy weapons from around Sarajevo, the international community is not reacting at all to this attack. This passivity of the international community encourages and stimulates the Pale Serbs to launch even more intensive attacks on the protected zones and the exclusion zone around Sarajevo. This situation has been going on for a long time and—apart from Sarajevo—Bihac, Tuzla, Gorazde, Srebrenica, and Zepa are also constant targets of large-scale artillery attacks. The UN Security Council resolutions are being grossly violated because the United Nations does not wish to force the attacker to respect them.

In this situation, the legal government of Bosnia-Herzegovina has no alternative but to realize its right to self-defense. We are being denied this right, however, by the imposition of the arms embargo. Thus, we are placed in a very difficult and absurd situation. The international community must protect this victim of aggression either by defending it with its forces or by allowing it to defend itself.

If the passive attitude of the international community and the embargo continue, those who apply it will become the open participants in the aggression on Bosnia-Herzegovina and the genocide which is being carried out here.

We know your government supports air strikes to protect the safe zones. We expect the U.S. Government to bring its influence to bear on its allies and other international factors so they might react immediately and in an energetic manner to the shelling of the protected zones.

If this is not accepted by your allies, it really is high time for the United States to unilaterally lift the illegal arms embargo against the Bosnian Government. The embargo has proved to be a measure which has had the opposite effect from that intended. Only a balance of arms will ensure that the aggressor takes more seriously the peace plans which it is currently rejecting so stubbornly. This is a way of achieving peace rapidly and of bringing to an end the suffering of the protected people of Bosnia.

We in Bosnia-Herzegovina are fighting for freedom and democracy. We hope that your government will continue to support us in this struggle.

Army Commander To Liberate Nation 'By Force'

AU1705194895 Paris AFP in English 1937 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sarajevo, May 17 (AFP)—The Bosnian Army will liberate Bosnia by force if the peace process does not get there first, army chief General Rasim Delic said Wednesday [17 May].

Speaking to troops near the Serb-held Posavina corridor, Delic said the army has been "growing into a force that can start liberating the country."

"How much we will manage to liberate depends on the peace process," the general said. "It may happen that the peace process is faster than us."

The Bosnian Army was built from scratch in 1992 and has a stronger infantry than the Bosnian Serbs but a weaker artillery.

Military analysts have said this month that the Serb and Bosnian government forces are both capable of inflicting tactical defeats on the other but that on a strategic level neither appears capable of delivering a knock-out blow.

"We know that we have managed to defend the country and no-one in the world talks anymore about the disappearance of Bosnia or its partition," Delic said.

"Our task is (now) to bring the liberation process to an end."

Intense artillery battles have raged for two days on frontline positions around Sarajevo. In the northwestern Bihac region, Bosnian troops have reportedly pushed back Serb forces.

Fierce fighting was also reported Wednesday in the northeastern Bosnia pocket of Orasje, north of the Posavina corridor, with the Bosnian Serbs and Bosnian Croats involved in heavy shelling exchanges.

Prlic: Croats Will Fight Only for Croatian Aims

AU1705195395 Split SLOBODNA DALMACIJA in Serbo-Croatian 16 May 95 p 25

[Report by Ivanka Dzajic: "Prlic: 'Croats Will Go Only Into the Croatian Army'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Capljina [Herzegovina]—Croatian Defense Council (HVO) recruits, who came

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to Capljina from all parts of Bosnia-Herzegovina with a Croatian population, have taken their solemn oath in the "Bozan Simovic" barracks in Capljina. Apart from the parents, relatives, and friends of the young recruits, there were also high-ranking officials of the Croatian Republic of Herzeg-Bosnia, the HVO, the Croatian Democratic Community (HDZ), church dignitaries, businessmen, cultural workers, and several thousand people participating in the ceremony.

The recruits took the oath before Tomislav Tomic, the commander of the Capljina Educational Center, who was also the first to congratulate them. The participants were then addressed by the guests of honor.

The Rev. Mica Punic greeted the participants and was followed by Miro Grabovac Titan, who greeted the recruits on behalf of the Association of Croatian War Volunteers and Veterans and told them that they could be proud to take the oath in the free Croatian state, which many generations before them could not do. Krunoslav Kordic, the mayor of Capljina, congratulated the recruits and told them to feel at home in the streets and squares of Capljina, a peaceful town on the Neretva River, adding that he hoped that Capljina would be proud of them too. Capljina's great friend, Major General Slobodan Praljak of the Croatian Army, told the recruits: "All the Croats who have died over the last 13 centuries should remind you that you will be confronted with various duties from now on: to the state, the nation, parents, and children. To achieve this, you should first liberate and create your state." Major General Tihomir Blaskic, chief of the HVO General Staff, told the recruits and the teachers at the Educational Center that they are being led by commanders who always say: "Follow me! We shall continue to develop mutual trust!"

Addressing the recruits and other participants in the ceremony, Jadranko Prlic, the prime minister of the Croatian Republic of Herzeg-Bosnia and the defense minister of the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina, said the following: "Croats will go only into the Croatian Army in Bosnia-Herzegovina and they will fight only for Croatian interests in Bosnia-Herzegovina." Dario Kordic, HDZ leader in Bosnia-Herzegovina, especially honored those Croatian sons who had lost their lives defending their homes without having taken the solemn oath, adding that they had done everything that they could, which made it possible for the HVO recruits to take the oath in Capljina.

Ivan Bender, chairman of the chamber of representatives of the Croatian Republic of Herzeg-Bosnia, pointed out that Croats would never again surrender.

In the end, Vladimir Soljic, the envoy of the presidential council and the defense minister of the Croatian Republic of Herzeg-Bosnia, congratulated the recruits and took the opportunity to thank those soldiers who had liberated Western Slavonija and those who were defending Posavina for their success.

The oath-taking ceremony in Capljina was accompanied by a musical program presented by the HVO orchestra, the musicians of the "Seljacka Sloga" Croatian Association for Culture from Trebizat and the "San" band.

Shelling of 'Serb Sarajevo' Continues 17 May

AU1805105595

[FBIS Editorial Report] Banja Luka Srpski Radio Network in Serbo-Croatian at 1700 GMT on 17 May carries within its 35-minute newscast a series of fighting reports from "former Bosnia-Herzegovina."

Sarajevo correspondent Vlado Popovic says that "this morning, the terrorist army of the Party of Democratic Action focused its attacks on our northern and northwestern defense lines, toward Serb municipalities of Stari Grad, Centar, and Vogosca, but a little before 1400 hours [1200 GMT] the brunt of the attack shifted toward the wider Zlatiste area, as the enemy used all weapons on their disposal, aiming to cut off and seize the route between Lukavica and Pale." The report also says that "their artillery and mortars targeted all areas of the Serb municipality of Novo Sarajevo, especially its urban parts, Grbavica and Vraca." The correspondent proceeds to say that "we have just been informed that a strong shelling of Ilidza began a little before 1800 hours. 60-mm, 82-mm, and 120-mm mortars and rockets were fired from Muslim positions at Butmir and Sokolovic Kolonija targeting the very center. So far, we were told, four civilians were wounded on Ilidza, one of them seriously."

According to Bihac correspondent Slavisa Sabljic, "after strong artillery fire and several hundred shells fired from all types of artillery weapons, suicidal attempts of Muslim units focused on Serb villages on the right bank of the Una river, setting fire to everything in sight and killing those who remained in their homes," especially in Pritoka, Ripac, Prascja, Krasic, and Lohovo. He goes on to say that "particularly heavy fighting has been reported on the Grabez plateau, on which Muslim fundamentalists of Izetbegovic's 5th Corps focused their attack." The report also says that "several thousand refugees from Serb villages in Pounje areas left their homes" and headed toward the western part of the Serb Republic. He proceeds to quote Serb military sources and says that "the Muslims of the Cazin Krajina were assisted by members of UNPROFOR's Bangladeshi Battalion and especially by units of the Croatian Air Force, which carried out an attacks in the early hours of

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the morning in the vicinity of Croat villages of Veliki Skocaj, Zavalje, and Medjudrazje, southwest of Bihac. Members of the RS Army 2d Krajina Corps are trying to stabilize their defense lines."

Describing the situation on the Herzegovina front, correspondent Bozidar Stajcic says that "Muslim units on Treskavica continue to attack Serb positions with all types of artillery weapons, attempting several infantry breakthroughs," but that a decisive response by Serb units forced the enemy to "retreat to its original positions with considerable losses. The Gorazde Muslims, from their strongholds on the left bank, opened low-intensity fire from 82-mm mortars at the lower flow of the Drina, but without consequences." He goes on to say that "in the direction of Cacin and [word indistinct], units of the Croatian Defense Council and the Croatian Army, from the Drenovac area, near Stolac, used antiaircraft canons and Broving guns to target our defense lines in the Velis area, while in Komanja Brdo area, one Croat commando group was caught trying to penetrate the rear of Serb positions."

Quoting the Eastern-Bosnia Corps Press Center, Majevica correspondent Lidija Beslic says that "after the Muslims afternoon attempt to penetrate Serb defense lines in the Stolice relay area, in a fierce counter attack, Serb soldiers liberated Bogdanovo Brdo, an strategic point for defending the relay, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy, seizing large amounts of hardware. From the direction of Teocak, the Muslims fired at Peljave, and then from Kovacica at Povrsnice. The attacks left no friendly casualties and defense lines remain stable."

Quoting the data of the 1st Krajina Corps, Sinisa Novakovic says that "Muslim attacks continue unabated on the Vlasic front. In the past 24 hours, the Muslims fired from small arms along the separation line," especially from the direction of Snjeznica, at times even using mortar projectiles, rifle grenades, Broving guns, and antiaircraft canons.

According to Ozren Jorganovic, "Muslim formations from the direction of Bukvik, Debelo Brdo, and Sivsa, used artillery projectiles to target Serb defense lines south-west of Doboj." He goes on to say that "from their strongholds south of Doboj, the Muslims fired several mortars at Serb villages of Sevarlije and Pridjel, on Ozren-Vozuca front," while on the Trebava front "the Muslims from Sofici used small arms to target the road between Paleznica and Sjenica."

Teslic correspondent Dusko Jorgic says that "Muslim units opened sporadic small-arms fire, but also fired several rifle grenades from the direction of Husari, Jasikova Ravan, Lijepo Brdo, and Omanjica Njive, at Serb defense lines. There were no consequences, and Serb soldiers responded adequately."

Correspondent Pero Drljaca reports that "there was no respite among the Muslims in Western Bosnia in the past 24 hours, Radio Velkaton reported today quoting the Western Bosnia People's Defense Information Service. Izetbegovic's extremists suffered another defeat yesterday after attacking People's Defense soldiers in areas of Golubovici, Brkic, and Koplje. Determined defense forced the extremists to retreat leaving their dead and wounded, weapons and ammunition behind." He goes on to say that "according to the same source, last night was not peaceful either."

Bosnian Serb Government Denounces Mikelic

AU1705154395 Belgrade NASA BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 15 May 95 p 1

[Report by "FONET": "Avoiding Responsibility for Events in Western Slavonia"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Pale—SRNA reports that the government of the Serb Republic [in Bosnia-Herzegovina] issued a statement on Friday evening [12 May] in response to the letter from Borislav Mikelic, prime minister of the republic of Serbian Krajina, to the Serbian Assembly, in which it denied "the Krajina prime minister's accusations and insinuations."

"Instead of submitting a report to the parliament of the republic of Serbian Krajina, whose parliamentary clubs had already required that he account for the events in Slavonia, Mikelic submitted a report to the Serbian parliament, trying to draw the Serbian Assembly, the leadership of the Republic of Serbia, and the Serbian opposition party leaders into the issue of his own responsibility, convinced that he would be able to avoid taking the responsibility for the events in Western Slavonia," the Serb Republic government pointed out.

The Serb Republic government believes that after the events in Western Slavonia it must be clear to everybody that Mikelic's political mission has boiled down to the execution of the peaceful reintegration of Krajina into the constitutional and legal system of Croatia, which in its opinion is "submitting all of Krajina to Tudjman's Croatia."

"There are completely different motives behind Mikelic's feigned support for peace, which role he took over from the official political circles in Belgrade. Supported by a small number of war profiteers from the Republic of Serbia, Mr. Mikelic turned the national problem of the Serbs in the Republic of Serbian Krajina into a business issue of several large companies from Krajina

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that he personally influences," the Serb Republic government assesses.

In the view of the Serb Republic government, Tudjman and his army "have only speeded up what they agreed on with Mikelic more than a year ago, under the auspices of official Belgrade and official mediators."

"The peak of the hypocrisy is Mikelic's statement that the units of the Army of the Serb Republic did not help the Serb soldiers in Okucani and Pakrac although they were only an hour's march from Western Slavonia at the moment of attack. Mikelic did not say, however, what he had personally done to prevent a Serb action in the attempt to make the armed aggression resemble as much as possible the guaranteed 'peaceful reintegration.'"

"Mikelic is especially bothered by the establishment of the mutual Defense Council, because this does not fit into his and his sponsors' plans and intentions."

"The Serb people must have now realized who opposes their merger and mutual defense," the Serb Republic government concluded.

SDP's Lagumdzija Criticizes UNPROFOR

AU1705162995 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] At a news conference of the Social Democratic Party [SDP] of Bosnia-Herzegovina, party Vice Chairman Zlatko Lagumdzija spoke about the latest Chetnik attack on Sarajevo and the incomprehensible conduct that UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] displayed on the occasion of this criminal act. Samir Huseinovic has the details:

[Huseinovic] The Greater Serbia aggressor forces yesterday violated the provisions of the Security Council resolution and carried out a combined artillery and infantry attack on the Bosnia-Herzegovina capital. Around 1,000 shells have fallen on the protection zone and four of our fellow citizens were killed and 19 wounded in this wild Chetnik attack. Considering the intensity of the attack, it is a real wonder that there were not more casualties among the citizens. This time, it could be explained by the organized and disciplined behavior of the citizens, Lagumdzija said.

What is incomprehensible is the [word indistinct] behavior of UNPROFOR, which seems to be trying to find the easiest way out of everything, either by freezing the current situation or by completely isolating the problems in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The incoherent statements by individual UNPROFOR officials about equal blame for the escalation of clashes in Sarajevo clearly indicate their inadequacy. Even laymen know that the Sarajevo blockade can only be lifted from the outside, so claims that this is why the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army took certain measures are untrue and extremely malicious, Lagumdzija pointed out. Such behavior by UNPROFOR is deliberately incited by Douglas Hurd and Alain Juppe, wanting to play down the conflict at any cost, with a view to freezing the current situation. Their threats to withdraw British and French UNPROFOR troops seem in certain diplomatic circles, particularly in France and Britain, to be aimed toward linking it to the withdrawal of all UNPROFOR troops from Bosnia-Herzegovina. Such equating of France and Britain with the United Nations is too pretentious and the world should be told that there are many countries ready to fill the empty space in the event that the British and French Governments do actually withdraw their members from the mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Such behavior by the international community, along with its obstinate insistence on maintaining the arms embargo on the Bosnia-Herzegovina Government, only encourages the Serb aggressor to commit new crimes. We do not need any new resolutions, only a consistent implementation of the existing ones. By closing one's eyes to crimes, dissuading NATO from (?activity) with the excuse of protecting civilians and UNPROFOR troops, UNPROFOR itself is siding with the aggressor and becoming a witness [sudionik] to the crime.

Canton Issues Statement on Ethnic Cleansing

AU1705172095 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] At its latest session, the executive committee of the Tuzla-Podrinje Canton adopted the following public announcement:

Following the political situation and the war events on the territory of the general region of northeastern Bosnia, particularly the Posavina Canton—at the time when UN protected zones are exposed to fierce attacks by the aggressor—we are expressing concern and protest due to the situation in which members of the UN peace forces are actively participating in changing the demographic structure of the Posavina Canton. By moving Serb nationals from Western Slavonia to the Posavina Canton, the United Nations has directly joined the ethnic cleansing and genocide against the Croatian people in Posavina and Bosnia-Herzegovina. On this occasion, we express our deep conviction that this process is taking place outside of jurisdiction and against the will of the Republic of Croatia.

We have recently been hearing rumors about the possible conspiracy against the Bosniaks and the state of Bosnia-Herzegovina through giving away territories around Orasje that are held by the Croatian Defense

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Council and which is directly connected with Serbian losses in Western Slavonia. The Cantonal Committee of the Party of Democratic Action of the Tuzla-Podrinje Canton believes that the top leadership of the Croatian people has finally decided in favor of the Federation and the definite implementation of the Washington Accord. This should be a guarantee for both our peoples that the said project will really be realized, and all unprincipled coalitions and unions, from the time of Karadjordjevo [venue of an alleged meeting between Franjo Tudjman and Slobodan Milosevic] until today will be finally abandoned.

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UN's Akasi Meets Serb Krajina's Martic

LD1705181095 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1747 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Knin, May 17 (TANJUG)—U.N. special envoy to the former Yugoslavia Yasushi Akashi said here Wednesday [17 May] that cruel atrocities had been committed against civilians during the first days of Croatia's aggression on the Western Slavonia region.

Akashi said human rights in the region were now more or less protected.

Akashi conferred for more than three hours with Serb Krajina President Milan Martic about the situation in Western Slavonia, the position of the remaining Serb population and protection of their rights, the release of prisoners from Croatian detention camps and warring sides' withdrawal from the separation zones.

Akashi briefly told reporters after the meeting that the United Nations, in cooperation with other humanitarian organizations were making every possible effort to secure a respect for human rights in Western Slavonia.

According to Serb Krajina sources, Croatian troops in their May 1 aggression on Serb Krajina's Western Slavonia region killed more than 1,000 Serb civilians, forced 15,000 more to flee the region and took 1,700 civilians and soldiers to detention camps.

Addressing the press, Martic, for his part, voiced displeasure with what he termed as a slow resolution of the problems in Western Slavonia and with Croatia's attempt to freeze the present state in the region.

Martic said he had urged Akashi to 'stop the chase of Serb fighters in Western Slavonia's Mts. Papuk and Psunj forests.'

Martic also said he had categorically denied the possibility of negotiations with the Croat side on troop delimitation.

'We (Serb Krajina) shall pull out our troops once Croatia has pulled out its own,' Martic said.

He said that, any contacts with the Croatian side must be preceded by placing Western Slavonia under U.N. protection again to help restore the situation in the region as it was before Croatia's May 1 aggression.

Martic also rejected any possibility of dialogue with Croatia about economic relations, saying such proposal was utterly incorrect coming 'at the time the enemy keeps attacking us.'

'We do not trust the U.N. force, let alone Croatian authorities or Army,' said Martic and added that as far as Serbs were concerned, the U.N. force and the U.N. Security Council had used up all the credit.

On UNPROFOR Credibility

LD1705174795 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1549 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Knin, 17 May (TANJUG)—Yasushi Akashi, the UN secretary general's special envoy for former Yugoslavia, said in Knin today that in the first days of the Croatian aggression against Western Slavonia "brutal actions" against the civilian population were recorded.

Akashi added that "human rights are now more or less protected in that area."

Akashi had three hours of talks today with Milan Martic, president of the Republic of Serb Krajina [RSK], about the situation in Western Slavonia, the position of the remaining Serb population and the protection of their rights, the release of POWs from Croatian camps, and the withdrawal of the warring sides from the separation zones.

Akashi went on to say in a brief press statement: I must stress that the United Nations, in cooperation with other humanitarian organizations, is doing everything it can to secure the observance of human rights in Western Slavonia.

Akashi added that he and Martic also discussed the withdrawal of the Croatian forces from the separation zones and the normalization of the situation in Sectors East, South, and North.

According to him, the Croatian forces are still withdrawing, showing that progress has been reached in this respect in Sectors South and East; the Serb side is expected to reciprocate and cooperate in this.

In his statement for the press Martic first voiced his dissatisfaction with "the slow resolution of the problem of Western Slavonia and with Croatia's efforts and desire to freeze the current situation, so that we should accept it; at the same time Croatia is showing that the population living in Western Slavonia wants to remain in Croatia."

The RSK president demanded that Akashi stop "the hunt for Serb soldiers in the forests of Mt. Papuk and Mt. Psunj"; he also categorically denied the possibility of conducting negotiations with the other side on the separation of forces and said that "our forces will be withdrawn once Croatia has withdrawn its forces."

Before any contacts with the other side take place, Western Slavonia must again become a UN-protected

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area, Martic said, in order to restore the situation there to the state it was in before 1 May, that is, before Croatia's aggression.

Martic also rejected any possibility of having a dialogue with Croatia on economic relations, assessing such a proposal as extremely inappropriate at a time when, he said, the enemy was continuously attacking us.

In this connection he added: "We have no trust in the UN forces, let alone the Croatian authorities and army." Both UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] and the UN Security Council have lost all of their credibility as far as the the Serb people are concerned, Martic concluded.

Not Ready for Talks

LD1705223095 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Yasushi Akashi, UN secretary general's special envoy, today had talks in Knin with Milan Martic. They discussed the situation in Western Slavonia in the wake of the Croatian forces' limited operation. On his way to Zagreb, Akashi had a brief stopover at Split airport and made a short statement for Croatian radio. Vedrana Krstic-Ivanisevic has the report:

[Krstic-Ivanisevic] Martic and his aides expressed a great deal of concern over the living conditions of the Serbian population there. They also wanted to know the numbers of fatalities and wounded and the number of people subjected to investigations by Croatian authorities. They also asked us about the number of people who stayed in the woods and the status and human rights of those who stayed in this area. We told them what we knew at the moment and promised to send them detailed reports once we had them.

Later on, we talked about the progress in the withdrawal of forces from the separation zones in sectors east, north, and south, about the safety of convoys and the safety of UN personnel in these areas. Asked whether the Serbs were ready for further dialogue with Zagreb at political and military levels, Akashi said:

[Akashi, in English fading into Serbo-Croatian report] No, not yet, not yet. Because, as they say in Knin, Croatia forcibly breached the cease-fire agreement by entering the area of western Slavonija. The Serb side will not negotiate on one single issue until the situation in this area normalizes, Akashi said. It was not easy today to persuade Martic that there was some progress despite everything. I believe, he added, that they are nevertheless willing to restore peace. It will, however, take some time to restore confidence because the Serbs feel betrayed in Western Slavonia.

Psychologically, they find their defeat in the area of Western Slavonia hard to accept, Akashi said. It is, nevertheless, important for Croatia to demonstrate a willingness to secure and safeguard human rights and give assurances that everyone will be treated in the same way as other citizens of Croatia. This will also take time, but it can be and must be done. The United Nations and other international institutions are watching closely as to whether Croatia will firmly honor its promises, Akashi said following his return from Knin, where he had talks with Martic.

'Croatia To Freeze Situation'

AU1805095795 Knin Srpski Radio Krajina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1900 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] At this point, the Republic of Serb Krajina is not prepared to accept any negotiations with Croatia, particularly not a meeting between military representatives, until the situation in Western Slavonia is back to what it was before the Croatian aggression against that part of the republic of Serb Krajina and until the Croatian Army withdraws from the separation zones, RSK President Milan Martic said today after meeting with UN Special Envoy Yasushi Akashi.

According to Martic, Croatia intends to freeze the present situation in Western Slavonia and to convince the public that the Serbs who remained in that part of the republic of Serb Krajina accept Croatia as their homeland. At the time of Croatian attacks on the republic of Serb Krajina, we think it is unfair that we are asked to negotiate, said Martic. As he told the press after the meeting, Martic demanded that Akashi use his influence to persuade the Croatian authorities to prevent the Croatian Army from manhunting the remaining Serbs in the areas of Psunj and Papuk, which Akashi promised to do.

They also discussed the release of the Western Slavonia Serbs who are detained by the Croatian authorities as well as cases of those people who want to leave the region. In cooperation with the ICRC and the UNHCR, we will do our best to protect human rights in Western Slavonia, said Akashi. He said he believed that the presence of UN forces in western Slavonia would help solve those problems. Akashi said that the withdrawal of the Croatian Army from the separation zone was an improvement with regard to sector south and sector east. We expect that the Croatian Army will withdraw from sector north, added Akashi.

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Army Not Withdrawing From Krajina 'Buffer Zones'

LD1805085095 Belgrade SRNA in Serbo-Croatian 0728 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Knin, 18 May (SRNA)—Croatia is trying to deceive the world community by saying its troops are allegedly withdrawing from "buffer zones," Branko Opacic, the head of the Information Service of the Serb Krajina Army [SKA] General Staff, told SRNA last night.

"It is true that there were some movements in Sectors East and North, but they cannot be described as a withdrawal," Opacic said, explaining that Croatian soldiers were digging in only 50 to 100 meters away from UN observation posts, thus remaining in the separation zone.

According to Opacic, no movements by the Croatian Army that may signal its withdrawal were noticed in Sector South.

"To the contrary, a concentration of fresh Croatian units has been noticed," Opacic said.

Expressing his doubts in good intentions of the United Nations to force Croatian soldiers to fully comply with the cease-fire agreement, Opacic warned that the current situation was "untenable," and that the SKA General Staff will have to take appropriate reciprocal measures unless something changed in the nearest future.

Opacic recalled that he had talks in Knin two days ago with Belgian General Peterson, the head of the UN observer Mission in former Yugoslavia, on the reduction of tensions in Sector South.

"General Peterson asked our permission for the inclusion of aircraft in the observation of the situation on the ground, which we could not allow, given our experience so far," the head of the Information Service of the SKA General Staff said in conclusion.

Mikelic Opposes Serbian Opposition, Pale

AU1705154495 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 12 May 95 p 1

[Letter from Borislav Mikelic, "prime minister of the republic of Serb Krajina," to Dragan Tomic, chairman of the Serbian Assembly: "Mikelic: 'The Seselj-Djindjic-Kostunica Coalition Collaborating With the Pale Leadership Is the Main Supporter of the War Option'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] "My name was mentioned several times by Zoran Djindjic and Vojislav Kostunica in a negative context in today's session of the Serbian Assembly. For the sake of the correct information of both the Assembly deputies and the Yugoslav public, I would like you to inform the deputies on the following.

"It is not true that only 12 days before the Croatian aggression was carried out against Western Slavonia I held meetings around that region (in Pakrac and Okucani) in which I allegedly more or less stirred up the people to accept the war option and presented our possibilities within that option, as is claimed by Zoran Djindjic. Djindjic seems to have deliberately changed the person involved. The meetings and public demonstrations in Western Slavonia were held by Milan Martic, the president of the Republic of Serb Krajina, and General Milan Celekic immediately after they had closed the highway [between Zagreb and Belgrade] to traffic. This happened only five days before the Croatian aggression against the Republic of Serb Krajina was carried out.

"The Banja Luka Television broadcast what the two of them discussed in these meetings, and the people who are outside the territory of Western Slavonia now know this too.

"Also Vojislav Seselj and his followers held meetings in Western Slavonia no more than two months ago. Only somewhat more than a month ago, a group of Seselj's Radical Party members also held meetings there and burned the cross ties on the railroad in Okucani. In these meetings there was agitation for further conflicts.

"Many things that should not have happened, occurred around the highway in the territory of Western Slavonia. These things contributed to the creation of tensions that lead to conflicts and the closing of the highway to traffic.

"The highway was open for traffic for four months, although there were considerable difficulties. Around 140,000 metric tons of raw materials and other commodities were transported on it in both directions. As long as the highway was normally open for traffic, it did not come to attacks against Western Slavonia. On the contrary, I am convinced that the safety on the highway was provided for by the international community, which meant that the Serbian people in that area were also safe.

"Nothing can justify the Croatian aggression against Western Slavonia. It has been condemned by the international community. This territory must remain a protection zone, which should enable the people to return to their homes and initiate the withdrawal of Croatian groups to the positions they had before the aggression.

"Regarding the accusations brought against me by Seselj, Kostunica and Djindjic, which have been repeated in today's session of the Serbian Assembly, I can say that the coalition Seselj-Djindjic-Kostunica, which collaborates with the Pale leadership, was the main organizer of propaganda activities that supported the war

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option, the cancellation of the Agreement on the Economic Relations, and the closing of the highway to traffic; in a word, they made warmongering propaganda.

"Those who stirred up the people against a peaceful solution, and their sponsors from Pale—whose units were only 1 km away from Western Slavonia and did not help [the Krajina soldiers]—are now accusing the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for not having intervened from a 400-km distance, although it is clear to everybody that it is the decisive anti-war policy of Belgrade that has contributed most to the calming of the situation and the protection of human lives, to the prevention of the war from spreading over large territories.

"It is the coalition Djindjic-Seselj that together with the Pale leadership constantly tried to destroy all efforts for peace. They insisted on closing the highway to traffic every day, they established a mutual defense council and created the atmosphere of conflict, and wisely got out of the conflict, trying to send the check for the tragic event to the address of those who have constantly been supporting peace.

"This hypocritical and dishonest policy must be condemned by every sensible human being in this country.

"Therefore I would like to ask you, Mr. Chairman, not to allow the platform in the parliament to be used by those who inflict huge damage on the Serbian people by their agitation against the policy of peace.

"I still consider that the peace in both the Republic of Serb Krajina and Croatia can be retained and new conflicts prevented exclusively through negotiations and the materialization of the plans that have been accepted by the international community," Mikelic concluded his letter to Dragan Tomic, the chairman of the Serbian Assembly.

'RSK' Protestors Occupy Knin Radio TV Center

LD1705161995 Belgrade SRNA in Serbo-Croatian 1525 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Knin, 17 May (SRNA)—The trade union federation of the Republic of Serb Krajina [RSK] organized a protest meeting in Knin today at which approximately 2,000 people present called on the Krajina authorities to set about "the unification of Krajina with the Bosnian Serb Republic as a matter of urgency and unconditionally."

Milinko Sandic, president of the trade unions, addressed the citizens who had gathered and proposed to RSK President Milan Martic that he dissolve parliament and hold early parliamentary elections.

Sandic, in front of the organizers of the protest meeting, expressed dissatisfaction and bitterness at the work of the Krajina assembly, government and media, which he accused of "treacherous behavior during the aggression by Croatia on Western Slavonia."

The RSK trade unions also requested the setting up of a commission to find out those to blame for the defeat of the Serb army of Krajina in Western Slavonia.

Immediately after the protest meeting several hundred citizens, led by the meeting organizers, entered the premises of Knin Radio TV to take over control of the main media institution in the RSK.

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Oleksy Calls for More Defense Issues Meetings

LD1705143395 Warsaw PAP in Polish 1205 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Warsaw, 17 May — Prime Minister Jozef Oleksy has said that the meeting on Wednesday on the issues of defense was "necessary." "I think that it should not be the only meeting on these issues," he added.

Asked by journalists whether a replacement for Danuta Waniek, the deputy minister of national defense was discussed, Oleksy said that this subject had not been raised. On Saturday, Waniek became the head of Aleksander Kwasniewski's election staff. "This was a serious and businesslike discussion on everything concerning the defense of the country in a short- and long-term period," he said.

The prime minister declined to answer more detailed questions, because, as he said, National Defense Minister Okonski was authorized to do that.

Okonski Comments on Meeting

LD1705204295 Warsaw TVP Television First Program Network in Polish 1730 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] During a meeting at the General Staff headquarters, President Lech Walesa, Prime Minister Jozef Oleksy, Sejm Speaker Jozef Zych, Senate Speaker Adam Struzik, Defense Minister Zbigniew Okonski, and Tadeusz Wilecki, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff, decided that defense issues would not be a subject of the election campaign and political games. It was decided that over a period of five years the number of jobs in the civilian sector of the Defense Ministry would be reduced by 25 percent and at the General Staff by 13 percent.

Okonski said that the subjects discussed at the meeting were the speeding up of work on military legislation and on the financing and modernization of the Army. He said that the issue of the subordination of the General Staff chief was not discussed. Walesa has been demanding for a long time now that the General Staff chief be subordinated to the president. Although these very important issues were not discussed, the president's and the prime minister's positions were not, according to the Okonski, completely convergent. The minister said, however, that an agreement had been reached during the meeting.

Okonski said that over a period of five years he would reduce the number of ministry jobs from 1,200 to 800.

[Begin Okonski recording] The same objectives can be met by fewer people. However, I do not want to carry out any purge or revolution in order to reduce this structure. [end recording]

The minister said that he supported the signing of a military agreement with Russia. In his opinion, as a result of the fact that there is no such agreement, it is the Air Force that suffers the most because of the lack of spare parts. Poland makes available to the Russians warships and refitting facilities for the Navy.

[Begin Okonski recording] We are simply doomed to be with each other. Since this is the case, irrespective of how much we like each other, we want to cooperate with each other. But the issue is that we should have political assurances from Russia that the supply of spare parts will continue in any situation. [end recording]

There will be another meeting of the same group of people in two or three weeks. According to the minister, during this meeting the subordination of the General Staff chief and personnel decisions will not be discussed either.

Further Okonski Comment

LD1705124195 Warsaw PAP in Polish 1127 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Warsaw, 17 May — National Defense Minister Zbigniew Okonski said today at a news conference after the "summit" meeting on most important issues of country's defense, that "all main participants in the conference agreed that the issues of the defense of the state should not become a part of a current political game and a subject of the election campaign."

The Wednesday "summit" meeting, attended among others by the president, the prime minister, and the Sejm and Senate speakers, lasted 45 minutes longer than scheduled. Its participants decided that more meetings of this kind would be held. Okonski told journalists that neither personnel matters at the Ministry of National Defense nor the issue of the subordination of the Polish Army chief of general staff were discussed.

The discussion focused instead on legislative issues. It was decided that work on the bills concerning national service, military duties, the billeting of the Polish Armed Forces, and on the military information [inteligence] services should be speeded up. Also discussed was the financing and modernization of the army and a process of restructuring at the central institutions of the defense department. The ministry is to cut 20 to 25 percent of jobs and the Polish Army General Staff 10 to 15 percent within the next five to six years.

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Kwasniewski Refuses To Leave Commission

WS1805072395 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 17 May 95 p 2

[Report by Agata Nowakowska: "Can the SdRP's Presidential Candidate Head the Constitutional Commission?; Kwasniewski Is Two Persons"]

[FBIS Translated Text] *Aleksander Kwasniewski has no intention of stepping down as head of the Sejm Constitutional Commission despite the fact that he was nominated as the presidential candidate of the Social Democracy of the Republic of Poland [SdRP]. The opposition doubts whether he will be able to remain impartial.*

The law is in favor of Kwasniewski — neither the Constitution nor any resolution place him under any obligation to resign. Moreover, Kwasniewski will formally join the presidential race only after he gathers 100,000 signatures from supporters and is registered by the State Electoral Commission.

Krzysztof Kaminski (Confederation for an Independent Poland) wondered during a commission meeting yesterday whether the SdRP leader should not resign, if only for the reason that as head of the commission "he will appear more frequently on television, which gives him a head start."

According to Union of Labor [UP] Chairman Ryszard Bugaj, the functions of civil rights spokesman, first president of the Supreme Court, or the head of the Constitutional Commission require a certain degree of impartiality, therefore those taking part in the presidential campaign should resign from the offices they hold.

Kwasniewski himself admitted that he will not resign because it is his duty to work on the constitution: "I am not and will not conduct any political canvassing as head of the Constitutional Commission."

After making sure that cameras and microphones were turned off, Kwasniewski told journalists he would be willing to resign from his office if President Lech Walesa resigned from his.

The positions of other candidates for Namiestnikowski Palace [presidential offices and residence] are just as dubious: Professor Adam Strzembosz, first president of the Supreme Court, and Civil Rights Spokesman Prof. Tadeusz Zielinski.

The law on the Supreme Court says that "during their term in office, judges may not belong to any political party or take part in any political activities." For the time being, Prof. Strzembosz, who has officially announced he will run in the elections, has gone on sabbatical.

Prof. Zielinski has thus far not issued any formal statement that he will take part in the elections, although he has not ruled out the possibility on various occasions.

The law on the civil rights spokesman does not outrightly prohibit any political activity. Such a prohibition is, however, inherent in the very gist of that law and the very nature of the office itself. "I hereby swear I shall fulfill all my obligations impartially," states the statutory text of the oath taken by the civil rights spokesman.

UP will most probably support the civil rights spokesman's candidacy. Bugaj expects Prof. Zielinski will resign from his office as soon as he decides to run in the elections.

The Constitutional Commission passed a ruling yesterday stating that parliament shall consist of a 460-seat Sejm and a 100-seat Senate.

Presidential Candidate Korwin-Mikke Profiled

WS1705131595 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 2-3 May 95 p 5

[Report by Marcin Dominik Zdort: "President of the Union for Real Politics Janusz Korwin-Mikke: The Majority Is Never as Wise and Reasonable as the Individual"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt]*Concluding a television discussion, the host journalist expressed the wish that "he would not be elected president." "I hope he does not gather the required number of supporters," GAZETA POLSKA wrote about him. The WPROST weekly published a letter to the editor in which a reader accused him of being an "undercover agent of the old regime who is currently filling out tasks he was programmed to do in the so-called past epoch," meaning that he is humiliating the principles of the free market economy and making them seem absurd. Despite these insults, the apprehensions of many politicians, and the disrespect of others, Janusz Korwin-Mikke — head of the Union for Real Politics [UPR], the most rightist of the parties on the right — has made up his mind, and will not give up running for president.* [passage omitted]

Introduction of Harsh Discipline and Liberalism

Far more shocking than how Janusz Korwin-Mikke says things, is what he says. His statements on democracy are particularly controversial. The UPR leader does nothing to hide that he considers democracy not an objective in itself, but one of the paths — not necessarily the best or shortest — toward building an ideal and just state. At the end of the 1980's, he was the first in Poland to speak well of Augustus Pinochet, whom the propaganda of the People's Republic had likened to Hitler. That

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was the drop that carved the stone, and we owe it to Korwin that even a "civilized and serious" politician like Donald Tusk [Freedom Union] can now talk of Pinochet's and Franco's accomplishments. Korwin adds that the Chilean dictator "was too permissive with the Reds," and notes with satisfaction that the number of Poles who oppose democracy has already risen to 30 percent. He loves to quote his close friend (and one-time party colleague) Stefan Kisielewski, who said that "harsh discipline and liberalism must be introduced."

The UPR leader dislikes democracy because it implies the rule of the majority, and the majority — according to Korwin — is never as wise or reasonable as the individual. "If a referendum was held today on whether the Sun revolves around the Earth or the other way around, the first option would win," he assures, adding that such a result would not, of course, alter the true state of things.

Given 15 Percent Support, One May Consider a Coup

He was frequently asked why — holding such anti-democratic views — he is submitting to the procedure of democratic elections. He has two versions of an answer. The first: "If I like to play bridge, but you can only win money playing poker, I will play poker." The second: "If I am for dismantling ski lifts, it does not necessarily imply I do not use them when I go skiing in the mountains, although I would prefer to have a helicopter instead."

Submitting to preelection verification is more than merely a means of gaining immediate control over state authorities for Korwin. The UPR president is thinking long term. "It is good to know what your public support is. Given 15 percent support, one may consider a coup d'etat," he says, because he believes "no dictator can rule without public support, regardless of whether that public is enlightened or not."

Generally speaking, however, Janusz Korwin-Mikke claims coup d'etats should be carried out not by politicians (as they would then evolve into a civil war), but by the military. He refused to give the name of the person who could become a Polish Pinochet on the grounds that it could still change, that these are merely the technical details of a coup d'etat. He did, however, speak very well of the head of the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces Tadeusz Wilecki.

Walesa Would Not Make a Good Dictator

Janusz Korwin-Mikke sees Lech Walesa's authoritarian inclination, but — despite his loathing of democracy — he is not enthusiastic about it. "I am not sure whether the president is capable of destroying democracy. He was elected in democratic elections himself," he says. He tries not to criticize Walesa, however, because "the rightist parties do not criticize the top state authority," albeit "whoever heeds the president has only himself to blame." [passage omitted]

The UPR leader considers socialism to be the worst evil. He often points out that Adolf Hitler, deemed by leftist propaganda as an extreme rightist, was in reality a national socialist. "Even five years of socialism does more damage than war," he says.

His consistent anti-socialist radicalism has made Janusz Korwin- Mikke and the party of which he is a trademark very popular. "I have learned that anyone can go real far single-handedly even under the most adverse circumstances if only he has a guiding idea. This is 100 percent consistent with the principle advocated by Korwin that everyone is an architect of his own fortune," says Stanislaw Michalkiewicz, the UPR chairman's closest colleague. "He is a politically successful man. He has managed to convince a large part of society that his views make sense. Korwin points out Poland's real problems. He advocates dismantling socialism and lowering taxes," says Marek Jurek. The deputy chairman of the Christian- National Union emphasizes that he does not approve of the "social Darwinism" Korwin-Mikke promotes. He does admit, however, that the UPR leader has evolved "from Darwinism to pointing out that impoverished people are most victimized by socialism, and is currently against social engineering trespassing the sphere of morality." [passage omitted]

He Will Take Votes Away From Strzembosz

Janusz Korwin-Mikke's statement that he will fight for the presidency at a time when it seemed that Adam Strzembosz's candidacy would be the only serious one on the right raised very disapproving voices against the UPR chairman on this side of the political scene. "He will take votes away from Adam Strzembosz," says Aleksander Hall. "He is consistently playing out his own popularity, he is focused exclusively on the target, and what will happen in the meantime is unimportant. The role of a homegrown columnist is entirely different from that of a politician, a statesman. The consequences of what he is doing may prove fatal for the right," fears Hall. Although Chairman of the Center Accord [PC] Jaroslaw Kaczynski has known the UPR leader since the 1970's and has held numerous debates with him, he refuses to talk about him. In one of his earlier statements for RZECZPOSPOLITA Kaczynski, speaking about his relations with Korwin, mentioned that the UPR chairman had once compared him to Hitler.

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"And when I laughed at the extremity of his views, he spat on the floor," said the PC chairman.

Some rightists claim that Korwin decided to run for the presidency because the majority of the remaining UPR leaders dislike Adam Strzembosz. Korwin-Mikke has allegedly decided to run only to prevent his party from voting for... Lech Walesa, whom a majority of UPR activists consider to be the best candidate. They do not rule out the possibility that just a few days before the elections the UPR chairman will press his colleagues with their backs against the wall and withdraw from the campaign, lending his support to Adam Strzembosz.

Some rightist leaders are very critical and suspicious of Korwin. He is said to be playing a dubious role in ridiculing the idea of economic liberalism and splitting the right. [passage omitted]

"If I were elected president, I would act in the name of moral principles, and not heed the will of the majority," says Janusz Korwin-Mikke.

If he does win, he will hire professionals via news ads, not according to the party key. He also promises to fight bureaucracy (he is against introducing powiats [smallest administrative units] because that would entail the necessity of creating 200,000 new state jobs). He says military battalions should be sent to the Central Office of Statistics and the Central Planning Administration [CUP] "to soak the files of these outposts of socialism with gasoline and burn them." "We would invite young people to dance on the burning rubble," adds Korwin, and does not rule out the possibility of organizing a brothel in the CUP building.

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KGB Ex-Officer Admits to Recruiting Iliescu

AU1705172795 Bucharest COTIDIANUL in Romanian 12 May 95 p 1

[Article by Anca Lazarescu: "The KGB Agent Who Recruited Ion Iliescu Is Proud of His Success"]

[FBIS Translated Text] According to his statements, Igor Botnarichuk is the one who recruited President Iliescu among the KGB members. He was Iliescu's assistant lecturer at the Moscow Engineering Institute when he received the KGB task to "take care of" and "instruct" that "promising" young man. Botnarichuk fulfilled that task, and today he is more than pleased with his apprentice. Botnarichuk's statements, which we have taken from the daily ZIUA (THE DAY) of yesterday and which we are reprinting here, will not be too surprising. Mr. Iliescu's pre- and post-revolutionary political career and his own activity and attitude are already enough arguments in support of our president's association with the Russian secret intelligence services. However, today we have the confession of the person who guided his first steps toward the KGB. With the faint hope that Igor Botnarichuk might have lied and that we might have been mistaken, we tried to find out exactly what President Iliescu has to say. Certainly, Ambassador Traian Chebeleu [presidential spokesman] was not anywhere to be found yesterday. Taken by surprise, the president probably has not prepared the appropriate explanations and denials. Mr. Iliescu probably did not think that the respective declarations might also be positive for him, and that, in fact, it is actually not necessary for him to justify himself before the Romanian people. Nevertheless, we continue to wait for our president to tell us: Is he or is he not a KGB agent?

(The following article is a report carried in the daily ZIUA on 10 May 1995)

In 1955, when Ion Iliescu graduated from the Moscow Engineering Institute, one of the faculty's assistant lecturers, Igor Botnarichuk, became a professor. "I was one of the representatives of the youth in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in our institute. In the same academic year with Iliescu, there were many promising young people for the youth movement. The leadership of the party considered Iliescu's series of graduates valuable and we were promoted. After a few years, I started working in research. I used to be, am currently, and will continue to be a communist. The same with young Iliescu. He did very well and I am proud of him: a true communist, who understood exactly what Marx said." This is what Igor Botnarichuk, who is now 71 years old, told us.

Igor Botnarichuk, the former assistant lecturer of the current president of Romania, was a very good student and a very good activist. "I graduated from the institute a few years before Iliescu. I remained at the institute as an assistant lecturer. Likewise, I obtained the position of representative of the party's youth organization. Once a month, I called at one of the KGB offices. I had to compile a brief report regarding the institute's activity and I received new tasks. During one of the meetings, my chief told me to take care of one of the young students called Ion Iliescu. I knew him by sight. I was his assistant lecturer the following year. Until I succeeded in recruiting him, I took care of him and instructed him in our spirit."

National Defense Ministers Discuss Cooperation

LD1805095895 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 0500 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The agenda for the second day of the official visit to Romania of Slovak Defense Minister Jan Sitek includes a visit to the Romanian government office, Foreign Ministry, and President Ion Iliescu. Our colleague Miroslav Minar reports from Bucharest about talks between Jan Sitek and his counterpart Gheorghe Tinca yesterday:

[Minar] Yesterday's talks between the defense ministers focused on certain aspects of the present developments in the international military and political situation. Jan Sitek and Gheorghe Tinca paid special attention to issues of mutual cooperation. Since November 1993, cooperation between Slovakia and Romania has been pursued on the basis of the agreement on cooperation between the Slovak defense ministry and the Romanian Ministry of National Defense.

The plan for this year's joint actions envisages 23 events. They will be implemented in such areas as the training of the troops earmarked for peace forces, the monitoring of arming and disarming, rear backup, and health care. The plan provides for resuming exchange holiday trips between the two armies and for carrying out a number of cultural and sports events.

After their talks, Slovak Defense Minister Jan Sitek and his Romanian host Gheorghe Tinca met journalists. We were interested to hear — especially since Romania borders on Croatia — Tinca's assessment of current developments in the war on the territory of the former Yugoslavia, and also what possibilities there are, in Romania's view, for settling the whole conflict by peaceful means. Tinca said that a solution should be sought in talks at a joint table. The world community should above all use political means to bring the partiesdes participating in the conflict to the negotiating

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table; and the world should make sure that none of the sides are discriminated against during these talks.

Exercises, Europe

LD1805144195 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 1000 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Slovakia and Romania will exchange units during military exercises. This was the outcome of the talks between the defense ministers of the two countries, Jan Sitek and Gheorghe Tinca, during the official visit of the Slovak military delegation to Bucharest. Our colleague Miroslav Minar is on the line:

[Minar] Both Slovakia and Romania are among the countries of the former Eastern Bloc that adopted the Partnership for Peace program. Romania was the first country to join this program.

Sitek and Tinca jointly confirmed that by actively participating in the Partnership for Peace program, the two countries want to contribute to stability in the Central European region, and at the same time to use the Partnership for Peace program to incorporate themselves into the newly forming European and transatlantic security structures.

Apart from other activities, Romania is planning to carry out a major exercise on its territory involving NATO units. Slovakia was invited to join this exercise as long ago as February this year, during the visit to Romania of Colonel General Jozef Tuchyna, chief of the Slovak Army General Staff. The invitation was accepted. It was confirmed that a Romanian military unit will take part in the Rozhodnost 95 Slovak Army exercise, which will also take place in September.

The agenda of Sitek's two-day official visit to Romania continued this morning with a visit to the Bucharest military academy, which is training career soldiers in various skills for Army requirements. In August 1885 when it was founded, it was the fifth military academy of this kind in Europe.

The Slovak military delegation was received afterwards by Foreign Minister Teodor Melescanu and Romanian Prime Minister Nicolae Vacaroiu.

The common interest of Slovakia and Romania to fully integrate themselves into all political, economic, and security structures was confirmed during these talks.

In this context Melescanu praised the cooperation between our countries, which is developing well, and at the same time he stressed that the regular contact between foreign ministry representatives, general staffs, and the implementation of joint actions could contribute to the overall stabilization of the political and military situation in the Central European region.

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Federal

Belgrade Allows Western Slavonia Refugees Entry

LD1705191595 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The main headline in Belgrade today is the situation regarding refugees on the border between Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on the Sava River near Sremska Raca. We have a report by Ivana Sutlic-Peric:

[Sutlic-Peric] Some Serbian sources have said that following three days of crudely refusing to allow the refugees into Serbia, the Belgrade authorities last night nevertheless yielded, and allegedly around 1,000 Serbs from Western Slavonia, under heavy police escort, were transported through the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to eastern Slavonia and western Srem. The most frequently mentioned destinations are the villages of Bapska and Sarengrad near Ilok. [passage omitted]

A rumor has it that Milosevic yesterday gave U.S. Contact Group representative Robert Frasure strong signals of his readiness to recognize Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia.

Serbia

'Common Aspirations' With Greece Underscored

LD1705172795 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1329 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Belgrade, May 17 (TANJUG) — President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia discussed on Wednesday [17 May] with visiting honorary president of the Communist Party of Greece and distinguished Greek political and public figure Harilaos Florakis the elimination of obstacles which burden the political situation in the region and stand in the way of common progress.

A statement released by the presidential office said the two sides had underscored the common aspirations of Yugoslavia and Greece, based on their close ties, interdependence and the common interest of their peoples to continue developing comprehensive cooperation and in that way consolidate stability in the region.

The two sides assessed that the above was doubtlessly a basis for the prosperity of the Yugoslav and Greek citizens who they said wanted to pursue their interests in conditions of peace and good-neighbourhood and independently to decide their future, the statement said.

It was set out that the friendship of the Serbian and Greek peoples was a great moral encouragement and incentive to Yugoslavia and its citizens to persevere in the face of the trials imposed by the crisis in the former Yugoslavia and to continue steadfastly pursuing a policy of peace and independence, as a best reply to outstanding issues presently facing them.

UN Spokesman: Western Slavonia 'Mainly Quiet'

AU1705150195 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 17 May 95

[Report by Jelena Vidic on a "regular" news conference by Yuriy Chizhik, "head of the Press Center of the UN Peace Force," in Belgrade on 17 May — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] In a protest to Haris Silajdzic, the UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] Command for Bosnia-Herzegovina has drawn particular attention to the fact that Muslim forces [Bosnia-Herzegovina Army] opened fire from the positions near UNPROFOR and from residential parts of Sarajevo, Chizhik said.

He explained that, owing to the situation in Sarajevo, NATO air presence was requested and approved. Intervention did not take place because of possible casualties among civilians and blue helmets.

After a cease-fire agreement had been reached by the Muslim and Serb armies last night, the night in Sarajevo was mainly quiet, Chizhik said.

The spokesman of the peace forces said that Western Slavonia is mainly quiet. UNHCR has begun to compile a list of people who want to leave Pakrac and the surrounding area. Four members of the Hague Tribunal have arrived in Zagreb. With the help of the UN civilian police they will carry out an investigation into what happened in Sector West during the Croatian offensive.

Chizhik said that UN military observers are still being denied free access to some parts of the sector. He could not answer the question on where the Serbs who had been in the reception centers in Bjelovar, Pozega, and Varazdin until yesterday have been taken to. He conveyed the information of the Croatian authorities that 558 Serbs are still being detained.

In Sectors, North, South, and East, the situation is still tense because of the presence of soldiers from both sides in the separation zones, the spokesman of UN peace forces said at the news conference in Belgrade.

DDS Leader on Serbs Departing Slavonia

LD1705172595 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1503 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Belgrade, May 17 (TANJUG) — Vojislav Kostunica, the president of the opposition parliamentary Democratic Party of Serbia (DSS), said on Wednesday [17 May] that the mass departure of

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Serbs from Western Slavonia following Croatia's aggression, is changing the ethnic picture in the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

Speaking at a press conference in Belgrade, Kostunica recalled Croatian President Franjo Tudjman's words that 'the model of Western Slavonia shows how Croatia could, efficiently and humanely, reintegrate the occupied regions' and that 'the Serbs can completely freely decide whether to stay or leave.'

'After everything that happened, Tudjman's statement reminds of the ideology advocated by the independent state of Croatia that one third Serbs should be killed, one third expelled and the reminder converted to catholicism,' Kostunica said.

The so-called independent state of Croatia was a puppet-state created during World War Two under the patronage of Nazi Germany.

Croatia's attack on Western Slavonija on May 1 killed at least 1,000 Serb civilians and forced about 15,000 to flee the region.

In the aggression, the Croatian Army captured the area of the former concentration camp Jasenovac where, at the time of the independent state of Croatia, during the World War Two, about 700,000 Serbs, Jews, Gypsies and Croat anti-fascists were killed.

Kostunica said that the latest change in the ethnic structure in the territory of the former Yugoslavia is the result of the international community's haste to agree to the disintegration of the former Yugoslav Federation.

'The concept of a joint life was more realistic before the former Yugoslavia broke up, both from inside and outside. Now, this is becoming increasingly less possible,' Kostunica said.

Vesna Pesic, the president of the opposition parliamentary Civic Alliance of Serbia (GSS), told another press conference in Belgrade she would leave for Western Slavonia during the day to see for herself what it happening there.

'We are receiving alarming reports that the Serb population is leaving and that human rights are bring violated,' Pesic said and added she would try to visit the camps where the Serbs are being held to see how legal assistance could be provided to those who will be tried by the Croatian authorities.

SPS Comments on Belgrade Economic Situation

AU1705203595 Belgrade RTB Television Network in Serbo-Croatian 1730 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear viewers, we have just received a statement issued by the Executive Council of the Belgrade City Committee of the Socialist Party of Serbia [SPS] on the situation in the Belgrade economy.

The maintenance of production in the Belgrade economy and production's moderate rise of 3.8 percent last year and the beginning of this year represent a visible result in the implementation of the economic program that is being realized under the conditions that would affect even the most developed economies.

This was concluded at today's session of the Executive Council of the Belgrade City Committee of the SPS. Slobodan Jovanovic, head of the City Committee, also took part in the work of the committee.

Relative social stability has been preserved in Belgrade even under these conditions, thanks to the enormous efforts of the workers, managements of Belgrade firms, trade unions, governments, and the Socialist Party.

This is in fact why the opposition is trying to shift the political battle to the economic and social spheres, and in doing so is trying to revive the logic of the worse the better, and demanding that the state solves all the problems.

With the help of the independent trade unions, they are attacking those mangers who follow the line of the economic program and who identify themselves as socialists.

Operating under the embargo requires considerable mobility in every firm and demands from the state authorities quick and expert servicing of the economy. On the other hand, the Belgrade Socialists take the identical view that the process of restructuring the Belgrade economy must be started in a bold and well thought-out manner in line with the current and future demands of the domestic and foreign markets.

Old programs and the concepts of development are being rejecting by the market itself. Therefore, no financial injections can help such firms. New programs, ventures, alternative projects, the combination of social and private capital, following clear market- defined conditions, represent opportunities that must be supported much more in the period ahead.

The SPS confirms its stand on the equality of the legal status of different forms of ownership by striving for equal business conditions for private and socially owned firms. It is untenable that private firms should appear most frequently as investors, while the state budget mainly draws funds from the state and socially owned firms.

In comparison with the countries in eastern Europe, which in the face of rapid privatization devastated their

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economic potentials, the situation in our country is considerable better. However, a halt must be made to the concealed dilution of social property, primarily through legal regulations and through the increased responsibility of business teams for the situation in prospect in some firms, the Executive Council of the Belgrade City Committee of the SPS concluded.

Collusion between various middlemen, private businessmen, and speculators on the one hand, and the managements and individuals in the social and state sectors on the other is transferring social and state property into the hands of a circle of a newly emerged rich men, whose wealth is not the result of work and ability, but of the avoidance of legal obligations through speculative activities in acquiring and selling goods and production materials, as well as various types of fraud, which are being slowly and inefficiently tackled.

The SPS leadership in Belgrade supports the demands that the commercial banks reveal information on lending to different groups of companies or individual companies. In the future, loans must exclusively be granted to the firms that can successfully realize their production programs on the market, the Belgrade Socialists concluded at their session today.

Oil Industry Meets 90 Percent of Farm Obligations

AU1705203995 Belgrade RTB Television Network in Serbo-Croatian 1730 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Oil Industry of Serbia [NIS] has fulfilled more than 90 percent of its obligations concerning the delivery of diesel fuel for spring sowing. A Serbian Government decree envisaged the delivery of 40 million liters, that is, 10 liters per hectare of land between March and May 1995.

NIS will fulfill the remaining obligations in the coming week, and will immediately start work on securing diesel fuel for harvest.

Montenegro

New Foreign, Internal Affairs Ministers Named

LD1705225195 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2218 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Podgorica, 17 May (TANJUG) — The Montenegrin Assembly this evening ended its session by approving the cadre changes in the republic's government proposed by Montenegrin Prime Minister Milo Djukanovic.

The new foreign minister is Janko Jeknic, until recently an economic affairs' specialist in the consulate of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in Milan. The hitherto foreign minister, Miodrag Lekic, had earlier been chosen as ambassador in Rome.

Filip Vujanovic, currently the republic's justice minister, was chosen as the internal affairs' minister. The hitherto internal affairs' minister, Nikola Pejanovic, was moved from this post because, it was explained, he was due to take up a new post.

Opposition deputies in the Montenegrin parliament were not satisfied with this explanation, believing that Pejanovic should have been removed for illegal behavior and overstepping the authority of the police.

The new justice minister is Miodrag Latkovic, hitherto deputy state prosecutor of Montenegro. [passage omitted: prime minister denies opposition allegations of divisions within the ruling Democratic Party of Socialists]

Kosovo

Rugova Seeks 'Independent, Neutral' State

AU1705163895 Tirana TVSH Television Network in Albanian 1800 GMT 16 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President of the Republic of Kosova Dr. Ibrahim Rugova today received Vili Minaroli, charge d'affaires at the Albanian Embassy in Belgrade.

President Rugova briefed the Albanian diplomat on the newest situation that is becoming increasingly grave due to the systematic repression by the Serbian regime.

Speaking about the solution to the Kosova issue, President Rugova said that the solution should be sought in respecting the political will of the people for an independent, neutral Kosova, as well as through dialogue and mediation by a third authorized party.

They also discussed other aspects of life in Kosova and the current political trends in the region.

Police Raid Homes, Assault Ethnic Albanians

AU1705194695

[FBIS Editorial Report] Pristina KOSOVA DAILY REPORT in English No 614 and No 615 on 15 and 16 May carry several reports on Serbian police activity against ethnic Albanians in various areas of Kosovo.

A report by the Democratic League of Kosova [LDK] Information Commission in Prizren on 15 May says that under the pretext of searching for weapons, the Serbian police in April raided 16 Albanian families, tortured 29 individuals, and summoned 17 others to so-called "police informative talks."

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It is reported that "the Serbian-installed authorities in Prizren convicted three Albanian National Democratic Party officials to long-term prison sentences." The Serbian police also raided Albanian institutions and schools and interrupted lessons "many times."

On the night of 14 May, the Serbian police in Pristina arrested the owner of a house in which Pristina high school pupils have been having classes. The owner was arrested under the "pretext of arms possession" and was interrogated about "the work of the school." Reports say that he was "beaten up severely" and "was threatened with harsh consequences if the Albanian students are further allowed to attend classes at his home." In the "aftermath of Serbian regime's crackdown" on Albanian education, when Albanians were "kicked out of the school premises," students of this Albanian school have been attending classes for four years now at his house.

A report from Glogovac notes that a local BUJKU correspondent was interrogated at the police station for several hours and was "cross- examined on the Albanian-language media work." On 9 May, the Serbian police in Istog arrested Bajram Berisha, a local LDK activist, at his home in the village of Saradran. On the same day, the Serbian police arrested four residents in the village.

On 11 May, two local Serbian armed civilians beat up a 14-year-old boy from Istog i Poshtem and threatened to stab him with a knife. The youngster was reported to "have suffered body injuries" from the beating.

It is also reported that on 13 May, "under the pretext of arms searches," the Serbian police in Vucitrn raided homes in a neighborhood there. Following the raid, the police detained two Albanians and threatened that they would "pay a heavy price" if they did not hand in the guns that they allegedly had.

A report from Malisevo notes that the Serbian police raided the homes of three residents in the village of Panorac on several successive days searching for one of their sons, reportedly the chairman of the LDK Youth Forum in Malisevo. The Serbian police also conducted raids in the village of Murushe.

Reports from Podujevo, Lipljan, and Kacanik note "frequent" raids on homes by the local Serbian police. The police's targets were political activists, such as Sylejman Gashi, a local LDK leader in the village of Doberdol in Podujevo, and school officials, such as the principal of the elementary school in Janjeve in Lipljan.

A report on 16 May says that "having been maltreated by the police," two Albanian teachers at the technical high school in Vucitrn were sentenced to "10 days in prison each" by the Serbian magistrate. It is reported that the two Albanian teachers were "physically maltreated" and their houses were "searched by the police."

Another 16 May report says that the Serbian police in Podujevo searched the house of a schoolteacher and arrested a resident in Shtedim village in Podujevo on 14 May and on 15 May, around 20 Serbian policemen surrounded and searched the houses of two Albanians.

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